April 2, 2010

This edition of the COD Processing Update will remain on the <u>COD Web site</u> until a new edition is posted. We will notify schools via a COD Web Message when a new edition has been posted.

Grant Programs

ACG, National SMART Grant, Pell Grant, and TEACH Grant

COD News

Availability of EDExpress for Windows 2010-2011, Release 2.0 (03/30/10)

The U.S. Department of Education is pleased to announce the posting of EDExpress for Windows 2010-2011, Release 2.0, on the Department's Federal Student Aid Download (FSAdownload) Web site, located at https://www.fsadownload.ed.gov.

Release 2.0 adds Federal Pell Grant (Pell Grant), Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH Grant), and William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan (Direct Loan) functionality for the 2010-2011 award cycle. The Pell Grant module includes 2010-2011 origination and disbursement functionality for the Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) and the National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant).

In addition to the Release 2.0 software, the following EDExpress 2010-2011 documents are now available on the <u>FSAdownload</u> Web site:

- The EDExpress for Windows 2010-2011, Release 2.0 Cover Letter (provides information regarding enhancements and other updates in Release 2.0)
- The EDExpress for Windows 2010-2011, Release 2.0 Desk Reference (includes step-by-step guidance regarding Pell Grant and Direct Loan EDExpress functionality) and Addendum (covers functionality related to the Higher Education Reconciliation Act of 2005 [the HERA], Pub. L. 109-171, such as ACG and National SMART Grant processing).

The *Installation Guide for EDExpress for Windows 2010-2011*, available on the <u>FSAdownload</u> Web site, also contains important technical information and guidance regarding EDExpress 2010-2011 that you should review.

For complete information about Release 2.0, refer to the March 29, 2010, 2010 Electronic Announcement posted on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site.

Live Internet Town Hall Meeting - Year-Round Pell Grant Q & A (03/29/10)

Federal Student Aid is pleased to announce a town hall meeting on implementation of the year-round Federal Pell Grant (Pell Grant) provision. This will be a live Internet broadcast during which we will present answers to common questions we have received and discuss issues raised by the community about implementation of the year-round Pell Grant provision.



The Higher Education Opportunity Act (the HEOA), Pub. L. 110-315, enacted on August 14, 2008, authorizes schools to disburse up to two Pell Grants in a single award year, beginning with the 2009-2010 Award Year, for Pell-eligible students. Final regulations related to this change to the Pell Grant Program were published in the Federal Register on October 29, 2009.

Federal Student Aid staff will present this information in one 90-minute town hall meeting, with one version of the meeting designed for term-based schools and the other version designed for clock-hour/non-term schools. The town hall meeting is intended for all schools that participate in the Pell Grant Program.

For complete meeting schedules and registration information, refer to ANN-10-10.

Federal Student Aid looks forward to your participation in this meeting.

2007-2008 National SMART Grant CFL Reduction To G5 Net Drawdown Warning Message (03/29/10)

At this time, all National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART Grant) funds for the 2007-2008 Award Year should have been disbursed to students. In general, schools are to submit National SMART Grant disbursements to the Department of Education (the Department) no later than 30 days after making an actual disbursement or becoming aware of the need to adjust a student's previously reported disbursement. Accordingly, disbursements and disbursement adjustments for the 2007-2008 Award Year should have already been submitted to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System for processing.

2007-2008 CFL Reduction to G5 Net Drawdown Warning Message Sent on March 25, 2010

On March 25, 2010, Federal Student Aid sent a message to schools that have a G5 National SMART Grant authorization, known in the COD System as Current Funding Level (CFL), for the 2007-2008 Award Year that is greater than their Net Drawdown amount reflected in the COD System and in G5. The message warns an affected school that its 2007-2008 National SMART Grant CFL will be reduced to the G5 Net Drawdown if the CFL is still greater than the G5 Net Drawdown on April 28, 2010. When the actual reduction occurs on April 28th, the school will have a reduced authorization in G5 and will receive an Electronic Statement of Account (ESOA) that reflects the revised authorization.

Federal Student Aid sent the March 25, 2010 warning message to an affected school's Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) mailbox in the message class SGTX08OP. A school that receives the warning message should review its internal records and its CFL, G5 Net Drawdown, and Net Accepted and Posted Disbursements (NAPD) reflected in the COD System as soon as possible. The school should submit all outstanding downward disbursement adjustments to the COD System and/or request any outstanding drawdown from G5 for the 2007-2008 Award Year as soon as possible but before April 28, 2010.

This same information will be posted in an Electronic Announcement on the <u>Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site</u>. If you have questions about the 2007-2008 National SMART Grant CFL reduction to G5 Net Drawdown, contact the COD School Relations Center.

2007-2008 ACG CFL Reduction To G5 Net Drawdown Warning Message (03/12/10)



At this time, all Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) funds for the 2007-2008 Award Year should have been disbursed to students. In general, schools are to submit ACG disbursements to the Department of Education (the Department) no later than 30 days after making an actual disbursement or becoming aware of the need to adjust a student's previously reported disbursement. Accordingly, disbursements and disbursement adjustments for the 2007-2008 Award Year should have already been submitted to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System for processing.

2007-2008 CFL Reduction to G5 Net Drawdown Warning Message Sent on March 11, 2010

On March 11, 2010, Federal Student Aid sent a message to schools that have a G5 ACG authorization, known in the COD System as Current Funding Level (CFL), for the 2007-2008 Award Year that is greater than their Net Drawdown amount reflected in the COD System and in G5. The message warns an affected school that its 2007-2008 ACG CFL will be reduced to the G5 Net Drawdown if the CFL is still greater than the G5 Net Drawdown on April 21, 2010. When the actual reduction occurs on April 21st, the school will have a reduced authorization in G5 and will receive an Electronic Statement of Account (ESOA) that reflects the revised authorization.

Federal Student Aid sent the March 11, 2010 warning message to an affected school's Student Aid Internet Gateway (SAIG) mailbox in the message class AGTX08OP. A school that receives the warning message should review its internal records and its CFL, G5 Net Drawdown, and Net Accepted and Posted Disbursements (NAPD) reflected in the COD System as soon as possible. The school should submit all outstanding downward disbursement adjustments to the COD System and/or request any outstanding drawdown from G5 for the 2007-2008 Award Year as soon as possible but before April 21, 2010.

This same information is posted in a March 12, 2010 Electronic Announcement on the Information for Financial Aid Professionals (IFAP) Web site. If you have questions about the 2007-2008 ACG CFL reduction to G5 Net Drawdown, contact the COD School Relations Center.

Weekly Reminders

Sending Addresses for U.S. Territories on the Common Record or the COD Web site (04/02/10)

When submitting student or borrower addresses to the Common Origination and Disbursement (COD) System, it is important that the correct tags are used, particularly when the student or borrower address is located in a U.S. Territory. These addresses are considered domestic addresses and should not be submitted as a foreign address with a Country Code. If these addresses are not submitted correctly, important correspondence from the COD System and the Direct Loan Servicing Center is delayed or not received.

When a student or borrower address is located in a U.S. Territory, the address should be treated as a domestic address and submitted to the COD System as follows:

Submitting Addresses for U.S. Territories via the Common Record

When creating or updating a person record via the Common Record batch submission, a school should send the address block with the following tags:

| Schema Version | Included Tags for Domestic Address, including U.S. Territories | Excluded Tags for Domestic Address, including U.S. Territories |
|--|--|---|
| 3.0b *Required for 2009-2010 Award Year and forward | <addressline> <city> <stateprovincecode> <postalcode></postalcode></stateprovincecode></city></addressline> | <stateprovince> <countrycode></countrycode></stateprovince> |
| 2.0e | <addressforeignindicator>false </addressforeignindicator> (optional) <addressline> <addresscity> <addressstateprovincecode> <addresspostalcode></addresspostalcode></addressstateprovincecode></addresscity></addressline> | <addressforeignindicator>true </addressforeignindicator> <addresscountrycode></addresscountrycode> |

Submitting Addresses for U.S. Territories via the COD Web site

When creating or updating a person record on the COD Web site, a school should select the U.S. Territory from the dropdown box in the State/Province field. A school should select the Country field as "Blank".

A complete list of State Codes (including U.S. Territories) is provided in Volume VI, Section 4 of the <u>2009-2010 COD Technical Reference</u>. If you have questions about this information, contact the COD School Relations Center.